

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-08 AF-08 ARA-10
EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 IGA-02 L-03
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2672
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 3051

UNCLAS ROME 2137

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO

SUBJECT: FAO TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM

1. THE FAO HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE ON THE FIRST HALF YEAR OF COPERATIONS OF ITS NEW TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM (TCP) FUND. WE ARE SUBMITTING THIS REPORT SINCE THE USG, IN SUPPORTING THE TEP AT THE JULY 1976 FAO COUNCIL MEETING, EMPHASIZED THAT OUR FUTURE SUPPORT WOULD DEPEND ON THE EXPERIENCE THE FAO HAS WITH THIS NEW PROGRAM. ABOUT \$2.5 MILLION WAS SPENT IN 1976 IN 10 COUNTRIES INCLUDING VIETNAM. ANOTHER \$4 MILLION OF PROJECTS ARE BEING CONSIDERED. THE TOTAL TCP FUNDS ARE \$18.5 MILLION.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

ROME, JANUARY 26-- THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM LAUNCHED BY THE UN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO) HAS, IN ITS FIRST HALF YEAR, PROVIDED AID TO 22 COUNTRIES IN FOUR CONTINENTS FOR PROJECTS RANGING FROM RURAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT IN BRAZIL TO CROP SEED IMPROVEMENT IN LAOS
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AND VIETNAM.

PART OF THE AID HAS GONE TO MEET EMERGENCIES SUCH AS THAT IN THE PHILIPPINES FOLLOWING LAST SUMMER'S DISASTROUS EARTHQUAKE WHILE THE REMAINDER HAS BEEN DESIGNATED FOR SHORT-TERM BUT URGENT AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. AS OF JANUARY 1977, A TOTAL OF ALMOST \$2.5 MILLION HAD BEEN COMMITTED

OUT OF THE \$18.5 MILLION ALLOCATED. OFFICIAL (FOR 1976-77)
PROJECT REQUESTS FOR ANOTHER \$4 MILLION ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION.

CONCEIVED BY EDOUARD SAOUMA, WHO BECAME DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF FAO A YEAR AGO, THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO SERVE AS A
CATALYTIC AGENT IN SPURRING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE
THIRD WORLD, UTILIZING FAO'S TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES
TO REALIZE QUICK-ACTION, SMALL-SCALE PROJECTS IN DIRECT
COOPERATION WITH INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS.

THE FAO COUNCIL LAST JULY APPROVED MR. SAOUMA'S PROPOSAL
TO LAUNCH THE FIRE-BRIGADE OPERATION OUT OF SAVINGS GARNERED
FROM THE SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION OF UNFILLED POSTS,
MEETINGS AND PUBLICATIONS DURING THE 1976-77 BIENNium. FAO FIELD
PROJECTS ARE NORMALLY FINANCED OUT OF EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDS
PROVIDED BY INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER DONORS.
THE ADVENT OF THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM (TCP) MARKED
THE FIRST TIME THAT FAO HAD ITS OWN FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT.

ONCE THE GROUND RULES WERE ESTABLISHED AND A SMALL
ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT WAS ORGANIZED, TCP QUICKLY WENT INTO ACTION.
THE FIRST PROJECTS WERE APPROVED IN AUGUST. THEY INVOLVED AN
EMERGENCY COMMITMENT OF \$124,000 TO PROTECT CROPS FROM FLOOD
DAMAGE IN CENTRAL BURMA AND ANOTHER EMERGENCY COMMITMENT OF
\$34,000 FOR PAKISTAN FOR THE VACCINATION AND DIPPING OF
LIVESTOCK IN FLOODED AREAS. BOTH PROJECTS WERE CARRIED OUT WITH
THE COOPERATION OF FAO'S OFFICE FOR SPECIAL RELIEF
OPERATIONS (OSRO).

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OTHER EMERGENCY AID PROJECTS FOLLOWED. THEY INCLUDE THE
SENDING OF AN EXPERT TO NICARAGUA TO DEAL WITH AN OUTBREAK OF
COFFEE RUST; THE PURCHASE OF FISHERY EQUIPMENT, VACCINES AND
BREEDING ANIMALS FOR THE BENEFIT OF TIDAL WAVE VICTIMS IN
THE PHILIPPINES; THE SUPPLYING OF SEED POTATOES TO LEBANON,
AND MEASURES TO COMBAT A SERIOUS PEST OUTBREAK THREATENING RICE
PLANTATIONS IN THE VIENTIANE PLAIN OF LAOS.

NON-EMERGENCY TCP PROJECTS INVOLVED THE SUPPLYING OF
SMALL BOAT FISHING EQUIPMENT TO GUINEA; A FEASIBILITY STUDY
ON RAIN-FED AGRICULTURE IN JORDAN; POULTRY DEVELOPMENT IN
RWANDA, AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES ON WATER MANAGEMENT IN SUDAN.

SUBSEQUENT TCP PROJECTS INCLUDED THREE IN LAOS, DEALING
RESPECTIVELY WITH THE TRAINING OF VETERINARY ASSISTANTS AND
OF FIELD EXTENSION WORKERS, AND WITH THE SUPPLYING OF SEEDS
FOR RICE PADDY AND VEGETABLE CROP CULTIVATION IN AREAS PREVIOUSLY
DEVASTATED BY CROP PESTS. TWO PROJECTS IN VIETNAM PROVIDE FOR
THE IMPROVEMENT OF RICE AND MAIZE SEED PRODUCTION, AND THE

FURNISHING OF TECHNICAL SUPPLIES TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BACTERIOLOGY IN SAIGON.

OTHER COUNTRIES RECEIVING AID INCLUDE BANGLADESH, BURUNDI, GAMBIA, AFGHANISTAN, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, SOMALIA, BRAZIL AND HONDURAS.

CURRENTLY, MORE THAN 40 EMERGENCY AND REGULAR TCP PROJECT REQUESTS ARE BEING CONSIDERED. PROPOSALS FOR PROJECTS ARE GENERALLY SUBMITTED BY GOVERNMENTS AND EVALUATED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BY FAO EXPERTS BEFORE BEING APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL. PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO PROJECTS IN THE POORER COUNTRIES AND EACH PROJECT IS LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM TIME OF ONE YEAR.

TCP PROJECTS ARE INTENDED TO FOSTER AND FACILITATE AGRICULTURAL, FISHERY AND FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT BY OFFERING A STARTING POINT FOR ACTION OR TO UNBLOCK SITUATIONS IMPEDING UNCLASSIFIED

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DEVELOPMENT. THE PROGRAM ALSO AIMS AS ONE OF ITS PRIORITIES TO IDENTIFY AND PREPARE INVESTMENT PROJECTS FOR FINANCING THROUGH TRADITIONAL LENDING AGENCIES, SUCH AS THE WORLD BANK, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS, AND OTHER RECENTLY ESTABLISHED CAPITAL AID FUNDS OR BILATERAL FUNDING SOURCES.

END TEXT.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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SAS ID: 3364676
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM
TAGS: EAGR, IT, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
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